



**OFFICE OF  
STATE TREASURER  
DENISE L. NAPPIER**

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# **NEWS**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Nappier Receives National *Women in Government* Award, Recognizing Integrity, Ethics in Management of State Pension Fund**

**Connecticut Treasurer is Among Nine Honored Today  
at Library of Congress Ceremony in Washington**

Connecticut State Treasurer Denise L. Nappier is one of nine "remarkable women dedicated to public service" selected to receive this year's *Good Housekeeping* Award for Women in Government. The awards were presented Wednesday at a ceremony at the Library of Congress in Washington D.C.

Nappier, principal fiduciary of the \$18 billion Connecticut Retirement Plans and Trust Funds, was cited for bringing high standards, integrity and ethics to the conduct of Treasury business and her advocacy of responsible corporate behavior. The nine winners, selected from more than 300 nominees, are profiled in the July 2003 issue of *Good Housekeeping* Magazine.

"Treasurer Nappier initiated a comprehensive Treasury Reform plan that, among other achievements, eliminated political influence peddling, banned finders fees, and strengthened public disclosure. Her program works closely with companies that receive investment of state pension funds, encouraging both sound fiscal practices and high standards of corporate responsibility," said Ellen Levine, editor in chief of *Good Housekeeping*.

The *Good Housekeeping* Award for Women in Government is given in collaboration with the Center for American Women and Politics, a unit of the Eagleton Institute of Politics at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey. *Good Housekeeping* is a member of the Partnership for Trust in Government, a project of the Ford Foundation and the Council for Excellence in Government.

"I am so honored to be able to recognize these women and the achievements they have made. Each honoree has shown strength, courage and drive," Levin said. "These women have changed our lives by taking the extra step in something they feel passionate about. I am glad that we can recognize women's accomplishments in government."

In remarks at the awards ceremony, Treasurer Nappier said "if there is a common thread here today, it is that nothing worth doing comes easily -- and that degree of difficulty should not be a factor in the equation when it comes to doing what's right. And from my perspective as Treasurer, doing what's right is synonymous with good investment performance."

*More...*

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Nappier, a leading advocate for corporate governance reform and increased accountability to investors, also highlighted the importance of creating more opportunities for women to serve on corporate boards. "Women bring a unique set of values, and a different perspective, a different approach to solving the intractable problems we face," Nappier said.

The Treasurer also sounded an optimistic note, saying that the consistent efforts of institutional investors like Connecticut was having a positive impact.

"Recognition of the imperative for change, particularly in corporate America, is growing, and we are seeing the beginnings of a very different approach to the responsibilities and obligations of corporations and their boards of directors."

Nappier, the only African-American woman ever elected to serve as a State Treasurer in the United States, the first woman elected Treasurer in Connecticut history and the first African American woman elected to statewide office in Connecticut, was nominated by Connecticut Secretary of the State Susan Bysiewicz.

Winners were chosen by a selection panel led by former U.S. Representatives Geraldine Ferraro and Tillie Fowler. The program, supported by the Ford Foundation and Wyeth Pharmaceuticals, awards nearly \$70,000 to the women for their work in improving the lives of others through innovative programs and dedication to public service.

This year's \$25,000 grand prize winner was Marsha Coleman-Adebayo. In 2000, Coleman-Adebayo, senior policy analyst at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, won a landmark case against the agency for racial and gender discrimination. Having seen what could happen to those who expose unfair practices in the workplace, she went to Congress seeking whistleblower safeguards for all federal workers. In 2002, the No Fear Act became law.

The *Good Housekeeping* Wyeth Award for Women's Health and \$25,000 prize winner is: Susan H. Mather, M.D. Dr. Mather, Chief Public Health and Environmental Hazards Officer for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs has devoted her career to ensuring that female vets get the health services they deserve. When she began her career in the 1970's there weren't any gynecologists on staff at VA hospitals. Last year, 700 babies were born through VA programs.

Each of the other seven Women in Government honorees will be awarded \$2,500. Treasurer Nappier's award funds have been designated to charitable organizations.

The winners come from all levels of government. The honorees, in addition to Treasurer Nappier, are: Lisbeth Eddy, Police Sergeant, Seattle; Helen JoAnn Fox, Mayor of Grayson, Oklahoma; Jane Golden, Director, Mural Arts Program, Philadelphia; Sheila Kuehl, California State Senator; Candice S. Miller, Former Michigan Secretary of State; and Katherine I. O'Rourke, Research Microbiologist, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

*Good Housekeeping*, founded 117 years ago, reaches 24 million readers every month. The Good Housekeeping Institute, founded in 1900, is the consumer product testing facility that researches products appearing in the magazine's articles and advertisements. *Good Housekeeping* is published by Hearst Magazines, a unit of The Hearst Corporation ([www.hearst.com](http://www.hearst.com)) and the world's largest publisher of monthly magazines.

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